TABLE 1-4

Employed college graduates, by level of highest degree, minor field of highest degree, and detailed employment sector: 2021

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution[a]	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government	State or local government
All degrees	51,764,000	36,346,000	27,666,000	5,237,000	3,443,000	9,978,000	3,342,000	6,637,000	5,439,000	2,114,000	3,325,000
S&E fields	16,408,000	12,162,000	10,082,000	1,195,000	884,000	2,354,000	1,374,000	980,000	1,892,000	825,000	1,067,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	2,570,000	1,692,000	1,290,000	236,000	165,000	526,000	374,000	152,000	352,000	145,000	208,000
Agricultural and food sciences	308,000	228,000	178,000	11,000	40,000	47,000	30,000	17,000	33,000	20,000	13,000
Biological sciences	1,937,000	1,256,000	968,000	198,000	90,000	462,000	332,000	130,000	219,000	82,000	137,000
Environmental life sciences	325,000	207,000	144,000	27,000	36,000	17,000	12,000	5,000	100,000	42,000	58,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	3,147,000	2,553,000	2,310,000	146,000	96,000	329,000	168,000	162,000	265,000	140,000	126,000
Computer and information sciences	2,493,000	2,131,000	1,945,000	117,000	69,000	157,000	102,000	55,000	206,000	94,000	111,000
Mathematics and statistics	654,000	422,000	365,000	30,000	27,000	172,000	66,000	107,000	60,000	45,000	14,000
Physical and related sciences	906,000	572,000	498,000	37,000	37,000	218,000	155,000	62,000	116,000	61,000	55,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	376,000	261,000	236,000	11,000	14,000	85,000	64,000	20,000	30,000	14,000	16,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	263,000	155,000	130,000	13,000	12,000	52,000	27,000	S	57,000	24,000	32,000
Physics and astronomy	240,000	140,000	124,000	9,000	7,000	79,000	63,000	16,000	21,000	18,000	4,000
Other physical sciences	26,000	16,000	8,000	S	S	3,000	1,000	2,000	8,000	4,000	3,000
Social and related sciences	5,774,000	3,957,000	2,843,000	679,000	435,000	1,031,000	471,000	560,000	785,000	278,000	507,000
Economics	869,000	718,000	633,000	28,000	58,000	65,000	46,000	19,000	85,000	44,000	41,000
Political and related sciences	1,039,000	749,000	577,000	101,000	71,000	113,000	66,000	47,000	177,000	105,000	72,000
Psychology	2,336,000	1,510,000	948,000	359,000	203,000	552,000	205,000	348,000	274,000	69,000	204,000
Sociology and anthropology	929,000	597,000	438,000	97,000	63,000	156,000	84,000	73,000	176,000	38,000	138,000
Other social sciences	600,000	382,000	247,000	95,000	40,000	145,000	70,000	74,000	74,000	22,000	51,000
Engineering	4,011,000	3,388,000	3,141,000	97,000	150,000	250,000	206,000	44,000	373,000	201,000	172,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	145,000	109,000	100,000	3,000	6,000	14,000	12,000	S	23,000	22,000	D
Chemical engineering	269,000	237,000	220,000	7,000	11,000	17,000	13,000	S	15,000	6,000	8,000
Civil and architectural engineering	543,000	399,000	368,000	7,000	23,000	29,000	22,000	7,000	116,000	21,000	94,000
Electrical and computer engineering	1,409,000	1,242,000	1,155,000	43,000	44,000	82,000	67,000	14,000	85,000	59,000	26,000
Industrial engineering	230,000	212,000	194,000	7,000	11,000	9,000	7,000	2,000	9,000	7,000	2,000
Mechanical engineering	848,000	734,000	684,000	17,000	33,000	50,000	42,000	8,000	64,000	46,000	18,000
Other engineering	567,000	455,000	420,000	13,000	23,000	50,000	44,000	6,000	62,000	39,000	23,000
S&E-related fields	7,822,000	5,881,000	3,649,000	1,800,000	432,000	1,304,000	659,000	645,000	636,000	280,000	356,000
Health	6,364,000	4,927,000	2,855,000	1,737,000	335,000	923,000	602,000	321,000	514,000	241,000	273,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	429,000	110,000	79,000	S	13,000	311,000	23,000	289,000	7,000	S	S
Technology and technical fields	488,000	410,000	368,000	15,000	28,000	32,000	9,000	22,000	46,000	26,000	19,000
Other S&E-related fields	541,000	434,000	348,000	31,000	55,000	38,000	25,000	13,000	69,000	10,000	59,000
Non-S&E fields	27,535,000	18,304,000	13,935,000	2,242,000	2,127,000	6,320,000	1,309,000	5,012,000	2,911,000	1,009,000	1,901,000
Management and administration fields	9,480,000	7,988,000	6,749,000	613,000	626,000	546,000	255,000	291,000	946,000	448,000	498,000

TABLE 1-4

Employed college graduates, by level of highest degree, minor field of highest degree, and detailed employment sector: 2021

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution[a]	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government	State or local government
Education, except science and math teacher education	5,019,000	1,150,000	714,000	205,000	231,000	3,687,000	291,000	3,396,000	182,000	25,000	157,000
Social service and related fields	1,466,000	986,000	429,000	472,000	85,000	279,000	101,000	178,000	200,000	45,000	155,000
Sales and marketing fields	1,293,000	1,143,000	941,000	66,000	136,000	90,000	27,000	64,000	59,000	19,000	40,000
Art and humanities fields	4,526,000	3,174,000	2,220,000	404,000	549,000	1,045,000	358,000	687,000	307,000	112,000	195,000
Other non-S&E fields	5,752,000	3,862,000	2,881,000	481,000	500,000	672,000	277,000	395,000	1,217,000	360,000	857,000
Bachelor's	31,688,000	24,232,000	18,921,000	3,045,000	2,266,000	4,205,000	1,161,000	3,044,000	3,252,000	1,105,000	2,147,000
S&E fields	11,377,000	8,905,000	7,461,000	782,000	662,000	1,154,000	532,000	622,000	1,318,000	499,000	820,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	1,773,000	1,301,000	989,000	166,000	145,000	227,000	138,000	88,000	245,000	82,000	163,000
Agricultural and food sciences	239,000	189,000	142,000	9,000	38,000	24,000	10,000	14,000	27,000	16,000	11,000
Biological sciences	1,301,000	955,000	742,000	141,000	72,000	198,000	124,000	74,000	148,000	36,000	112,000
Environmental life sciences	232,000	157,000	106,000	16,000	35,000	5,000	4,000	1,000	70,000	30,000	40,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	2,133,000	1,775,000	1,607,000	99,000	68,000	171,000	56,000	115,000	188,000	97,000	91,000
Computer and information sciences	1,694,000	1,468,000	1,338,000	78,000	51,000	81,000	43,000	38,000	145,000	63,000	81,000
Mathematics and statistics	440,000	307,000	269,000	21,000	17,000	90,000	13,000	77,000	43,000	S	9,000
Physical and related sciences	517,000	349,000	301,000	22,000	26,000	97,000	56,000	41,000	70,000	26,000	44,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	221,000	163,000	148,000	7,000	9,000	39,000	30,000	9,000	20,000	6,000	13,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	172,000	106,000	88,000	8,000	10,000	S	5,000	S	43,000	16,000	27,000
Physics and astronomy	106,000	66,000	60,000	4,000	3,000	34,000	21,000	13,000	6,000	3,000	2,000
Other physical sciences	17,000	14,000	6,000	S	S	S	D	D	S	1,000	D
Social and related sciences	4,229,000	3,102,000	2,362,000	432,000	309,000	559,000	208,000	352,000	568,000	179,000	388,000
Economics	714,000	607,000	546,000	13,000	48,000	31,000	14,000	17,000	75,000	38,000	38,000
Political and related sciences	777,000	619,000	490,000	65,000	65,000	62,000	26,000	36,000	95,000	48,000	47,000
Psychology	1,521,000	1,035,000	716,000	208,000	111,000	288,000	99,000	190,000	197,000	49,000	148,000
Sociology and anthropology	800,000	556,000	409,000	89,000	58,000	94,000	33,000	61,000	150,000	33,000	117,000
Other social sciences	417,000	284,000	200,000	56,000	27,000	84,000	36,000	48,000	50,000	12,000	38,000
Engineering	2,725,000	2,378,000	2,201,000	63,000	114,000	99,000	73,000	26,000	248,000	115,000	133,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	86,000	71,000	66,000	1,000	S	2,000	2,000	S	13,000	12,000	D
Chemical engineering	202,000	183,000	173,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	4,000	S	13,000	6,000	S
Civil and architectural engineering	395,000	298,000	274,000	S	18,000	11,000	6,000	S	86,000	15,000	71,000
Electrical and computer engineering	924,000	834,000	771,000	31,000	32,000	36,000	29,000	7,000	54,000	32,000	22,000
Industrial engineering	154,000	146,000	132,000	4,000	9,000	2,000	D	2,000	6,000	5,000	1,000
Mechanical engineering	660,000	583,000	541,000	12,000	30,000	29,000	22,000	7,000	49,000	34,000	15,000
Other engineering	304,000	264,000	244,000	5,000	15,000	13,000	10,000	S	28,000	12,000	16,000
S&E-related fields	3,821,000	3,082,000	1,912,000	997,000	173,000	444,000	184,000	260,000	294,000	112,000	182,000
Health	2,912,000	2,403,000	1,344,000	960,000	99,000	296,000	171,000	126,000	212,000	78,000	134,000

TABLE 1-4

Employed college graduates, by level of highest degree, minor field of highest degree, and detailed employment sector: 2021

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution[a]	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government	State or local government
Science and mathematics teacher education	171,000	62,000	48,000	S	S	105,000	S	104,000	S	D	D
Technology and technical fields	393,000	327,000	291,000	11,000	26,000	23,000	S	21,000	43,000	25,000	17,000
Other S&E-related fields	344,000	291,000	230,000	18,000	43,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	34,000	S	28,000
Non-S&E fields	16,491,000	12,245,000	9,548,000	1,266,000	1,431,000	2,607,000	445,000	2,162,000	1,639,000	494,000	1,145,000
Management and administration fields	6,113,000	5,231,000	4,378,000	404,000	448,000	282,000	108,000	174,000	600,000	230,000	370,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	1,960,000	711,000	468,000	114,000	129,000	1,164,000	35,000	1,129,000	86,000	21,000	65,000
Social service and related fields	542,000	367,000	207,000	119,000	41,000	94,000	19,000	75,000	82,000	S	75,000
Sales and marketing fields	1,078,000	956,000	783,000	58,000	115,000	74,000	17,000	57,000	48,000	S	36,000
Art and humanities fields	3,626,000	2,704,000	1,974,000	282,000	447,000	653,000	150,000	503,000	269,000	92,000	177,000
Other non-S&E fields	3,172,000	2,276,000	1,737,000	289,000	250,000	340,000	116,000	224,000	555,000	133,000	422,000
Master's	14,688,000	8,660,000	6,400,000	1,542,000	718,000	4,447,000	1,092,000	3,354,000	1,582,000	699,000	883,000
S&E fields	3,680,000	2,582,000	2,103,000	321,000	159,000	637,000	336,000	301,000	461,000	242,000	219,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	417,000	228,000	177,000	39,000	11,000	118,000	68,000	51,000	71,000	32,000	39,000
Agricultural and food sciences	46,000	28,000	26,000	*	S	12,000	9,000	3,000	6,000	4,000	S
Biological sciences	286,000	152,000	115,000	28,000	9,000	96,000	52,000	44,000	38,000	18,000	19,000
Environmental life sciences	86,000	48,000	36,000	11,000	S	10,000	6,000	S	28,000	9,000	18,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	888,000	712,000	640,000	45,000	27,000	103,000	60,000	43,000	72,000	38,000	35,000
Computer and information sciences	732,000	618,000	564,000	37,000	17,000	56,000	40,000	16,000	58,000	28,000	30,000
Mathematics and statistics	156,000	94,000	77,000	8,000	10,000	47,000	21,000	26,000	14,000	9,000	5,000
Physical and related sciences	174,000	107,000	97,000	6,000	5,000	45,000	29,000	16,000	22,000	15,000	7,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	57,000	38,000	34,000	2,000	S	15,000	7,000	8,000	4,000	2,000	S
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	59,000	38,000	34,000	S	1,000	13,000	8,000	S	8,000	3,000	5,000
Physics and astronomy	52,000	30,000	28,000	S	D	16,000	13,000	2,000	6,000	6,000	D
Other physical sciences	6,000	1,000	1,000	D	D	1,000	1,000	S	S	S	D
Social and related sciences	1,171,000	696,000	401,000	205,000	91,000	287,000	111,000	176,000	188,000	83,000	105,000
Economics	114,000	91,000	70,000	13,000	9,000	16,000	15,000	1,000	6,000	4,000	2,000
Political and related sciences	231,000	122,000	83,000	33,000	6,000	30,000	22,000	9,000	78,000	56,000	22,000
Psychology	602,000	363,000	180,000	122,000	61,000	181,000	45,000	136,000	58,000	10,000	48,000
Sociology and anthropology	82,000	34,000	26,000	4,000	S	25,000	17,000	8,000	24,000	4,000	20,000
Other social sciences	142,000	86,000	42,000	33,000	11,000	34,000	12,000	22,000	22,000	10,000	12,000
Engineering	1,030,000	839,000	787,000	26,000	26,000	84,000	68,000	16,000	107,000	74,000	33,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	48,000	32,000	30,000	2,000	D	7,000	6,000	D	9,000	9,000	D
Chemical engineering	38,000	32,000	27,000	S	S	5,000	3,000	D	*	D	*
Civil and architectural engineering	126,000	90,000	85,000	1,000	4,000	10,000	8,000	S	26,000	5,000	21,000
Electrical and computer engineering	406,000	349,000	329,000	10,000	10,000	28,000	21,000	7,000	29,000	25,000	4,000

TABLE 1-4

Employed college graduates, by level of highest degree, minor field of highest degree, and detailed employment sector: 2021

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution[a]	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government	State or local government
Industrial engineering	66,000	59,000	55,000	3,000	S	4,000	S	D	2,000	1,000	S
Mechanical engineering	159,000	131,000	125,000	4,000	2,000	14,000	13,000	S	14,000	12,000	2,000
Other engineering	188,000	145,000	136,000	4,000	6,000	15,000	14,000	S	27,000	22,000	5,000
S&E-related fields	2,080,000	1,321,000	804,000	427,000	91,000	531,000	167,000	364,000	228,000	96,000	133,000
Health	1,561,000	1,056,000	585,000	402,000	69,000	317,000	139,000	178,000	188,000	91,000	98,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	244,000	47,000	31,000	9,000	7,000	195,000	12,000	183,000	2,000	S	1,000
Technology and technical fields	86,000	77,000	72,000	3,000	2,000	6,000	5,000	1,000	3,000	1,000	2,000
Other S&E-related fields	189,000	141,000	116,000	13,000	12,000	14,000	11,000	S	35,000	3,000	32,000
Non-S&E fields	8,928,000	4,756,000	3,493,000	795,000	468,000	3,279,000	590,000	2,689,000	893,000	362,000	531,000
Management and administration fields	3,311,000	2,732,000	2,357,000	205,000	171,000	240,000	125,000	115,000	339,000	213,000	125,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	2,888,000	414,000	238,000	78,000	99,000	2,382,000	193,000	2,189,000	91,000	4,000	88,000
Social service and related fields	841,000	577,000	217,000	322,000	39,000	149,000	51,000	98,000	114,000	36,000	78,000
Sales and marketing fields	210,000	186,000	158,000	7,000	20,000	14,000	S	7,000	S	S	S
Art and humanities fields	740,000	418,000	225,000	107,000	85,000	287,000	124,000	163,000	35,000	18,000	17,000
Other non-S&E fields	938,000	429,000	299,000	77,000	54,000	207,000	90,000	117,000	302,000	83,000	219,000
Doctorate	2,141,000	995,000	695,000	193,000	107,000	981,000	808,000	173,000	165,000	115,000	50,000
S&E fields	1,302,000	647,000	504,000	85,000	57,000	547,000	498,000	49,000	109,000	83,000	26,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	380,000	163,000	123,000	31,000	9,000	181,000	168,000	13,000	36,000	31,000	6,000
Agricultural and food sciences	23,000	11,000	10,000	S	D	11,000	11,000	D	1,000	1,000	D
Biological sciences	350,000	149,000	111,000	30,000	9,000	168,000	155,000	13,000	33,000	28,000	5,000
Environmental life sciences	7,000	2,000	2,000	D	D	3,000	3,000	D	S	S	*
Computer and mathematical sciences	127,000	66,000	62,000	3,000	S	55,000	51,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	D
Computer and information sciences	68,000	45,000	43,000	1,000	S	19,000	19,000	D	3,000	3,000	D
Mathematics and statistics	59,000	21,000	19,000	1,000	*	35,000	32,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	D
Physical and related sciences	215,000	116,000	99,000	10,000	7,000	75,000	70,000	5,000	24,000	21,000	3,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	97,000	60,000	54,000	3,000	3,000	31,000	27,000	4,000	7,000	6,000	*
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	33,000	11,000	8,000	3,000	D	16,000	15,000	S	6,000	5,000	D
Physics and astronomy	82,000	44,000	36,000	4,000	3,000	29,000	28,000	1,000	10,000	8,000	1,000
Other physical sciences	2,000	S	S	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related sciences	325,000	132,000	67,000	35,000	30,000	169,000	143,000	25,000	25,000	14,000	11,000
Economics	42,000	19,000	16,000	2,000	S	19,000	17,000	S	4,000	3,000	S
Political and related sciences	32,000	8,000	4,000	3,000	D	20,000	19,000	1,000	4,000	1,000	S
Psychology	165,000	85,000	38,000	22,000	26,000	66,000	52,000	14,000	14,000	9,000	5,000
Sociology and anthropology	46,000	7,000	3,000	3,000	1,000	37,000	34,000	S	2,000	1,000	S
Other social sciences	40,000	12,000	5,000	5,000	D	26,000	22,000	4,000	S	*	S

TABLE 1-4

Employed college graduates, by level of highest degree, minor field of highest degree, and detailed employment sector: 2021

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution[a]	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government	State or local government
Engineering	256,000	171,000	152,000	8,000	11,000	67,000	65,000	2,000	18,000	12,000	6,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	11,000	5,000	4,000	D	D	4,000	4,000	D	2,000	2,000	D
Chemical engineering	30,000	23,000	20,000	D	S	6,000	6,000	D	S	D	D
Civil and architectural engineering	22,000	11,000	9,000	D	1,000	8,000	7,000	D	3,000	1,000	2,000
Electrical and computer engineering	79,000	58,000	54,000	2,000	S	18,000	17,000	S	3,000	3,000	*
Industrial engineering	11,000	7,000	7,000	D	D	2,000	2,000	D	D	D	D
Mechanical engineering	29,000	20,000	18,000	1,000	S	8,000	7,000	*	1,000	*	D
Other engineering	75,000	46,000	40,000	3,000	2,000	22,000	21,000	S	7,000	6,000	2,000
S&E-related fields	304,000	185,000	126,000	41,000	18,000	88,000	78,000	10,000	32,000	20,000	12,000
Health	275,000	174,000	118,000	38,000	18,000	69,000	62,000	7,000	31,000	19,000	12,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	14,000	D	D	D	D	12,000	10,000	2,000	D	D	D
Technology and technical fields	9,000	6,000	5,000	D	D	3,000	2,000	D	D	D	D
Other S&E-related fields	7,000	3,000	3,000	D	D	3,000	3,000	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E fields	534,000	163,000	65,000	67,000	31,000	346,000	232,000	114,000	25,000	13,000	12,000
Management and administration fields	56,000	25,000	13,000	D	7,000	24,000	22,000	S	7,000	S	D
Education, except science and math teacher education	171,000	26,000	9,000	13,000	S	141,000	63,000	78,000	5,000	S	4,000
Social service and related fields	83,000	42,000	6,000	32,000	4,000	37,000	31,000	6,000	S	D	D
Sales and marketing fields	4,000	D	D	D	D	3,000	3,000	D	D	D	D
Art and humanities fields	160,000	52,000	21,000	15,000	16,000	105,000	84,000	21,000	S	S	D
Other non-S&E fields	60,000	18,000	16,000	2,000	D	36,000	29,000	7,000	6,000	3,000	S
Professional	3,246,000	2,459,000	1,650,000	457,000	352,000	347,000	281,000	66,000	440,000	195,000	245,000
S&E fields	49,000	27,000	14,000	7,000	6,000	17,000	9,000	S	4,000	2,000	3,000
S&E-related fields	1,616,000	1,293,000	807,000	336,000	150,000	241,000	230,000	11,000	82,000	53,000	29,000
Non-S&E fields	1,582,000	1,139,000	829,000	114,000	197,000	89,000	42,000	47,000	354,000	140,000	213,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering.

[a] Includes medical schools and university-affiliated research institutes.

Note(s):
Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates, 2021.